

PATENT  
Serial No. 10/511,216  
Amendment in Reply to Office Action mailed on November 16, 2005

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please delete the current Abstract in its entirety and  
substitute therefor the enclosed New Abstract.

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NEW ABSTRACT

A signal includes a runlength limited (RLL) encoded binary d,k channel bitstream, parameter d defining a minimum number and k defining a maximum number of zeroes between any two ones of the bitstream, or vice versa. The signal further includes a number of sections of respectively N successive RLL channel bits, called RLL rows, each RLL row representing a row parity-check code-word, in which a row-based parity-check constraint for the RLL row has been realized. K sections of respectively N successive channel bits, called column parity-check rows, are located at predetermined positions of a group of M RLL rows. The column parity-check rows include column parity-check enabling channel words, each realizing a column-based parity-check constraint for all corresponding segments of at least the M RLL rows of the group that correspond to a specific column parity-check enabling channel word, thereby constituting a column parity-check codeword.